



10091442.060502 #9

Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 001560-332

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
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Masafumi TSUJIMOTO et al) Group Art Unit:
)
Application No.: 10/091,442) Examiner:
)
Filed: March 7, 2002) Confirmation No.: 9751
)
For: MEGAKARYOCYTE)
DIFFERENTIATION FACTOR)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-cited application as shown below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add claims 30 and 31 as follows:

--30. (new) An isolated DNA coding for a megakaryocyte differentiation factor which stimulates differentiation of megakaryocytes, wherein said DNA hybridizes with a polynucleotide encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 34.

31. (new) A process for production of a megakaryocyte differentiation factor which stimulates differentiation of megakaryocytes, comprising the steps of culturing a eukaryotic or prokaryotic host cell transformed with an expression vector comprising a DNA encoding

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01 FC:102 168.00 CH
02 FC:103 36.00 CH

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said megakaryocyte differentiation factor, wherein said DNA hybridizes with a polynucleotide coding for the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 34, under conditions suitable for producing the megakaryocyte differentiation factor, and recovering the megakaryocyte differentiation factor.--

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REMARKS

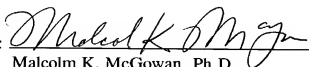
Entry of the foregoing, and early and favorable consideration of the subject application is respectfully requested.

By the present Amendment, new claims 30 and 31 have been added. These claims, directed to DNA encoding a megakaryocyte differentiation factor, and a process for production of a megakaryocyte differentiation factor, derive support from throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this Amendment, or the Application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: June 5, 2002